

Message Text

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46

ACTION AGR-20

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CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

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PASS AGRICULTURE AND DEFENSE

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EAGR: GW

SUBJECT: U. S. CERTIFICATION FOR PERISHABLE PROCESSED MEAT PRODUCTS
EXPORTED BY THE MILITARY TO FORCES IN GERMANY

REF: EMBTEL 08204

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ON JUNE 27, MILITARY AND EMBASSY OFFICERS MET WITH PROFESSOR DR. ECKERSKORN, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ANIMAL HEALTH, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF PERISHABLE PROCESSED MEAT PRODUCTS BROUGHT INTO GERMANY FOR U. S. MILITARY FORCES. DR. STEINMETZ, APHIS, USDA, WASHINGTON, OUTLINED U. S. DIFFICULTIES WITH GERMAN REQUIREMENTS AND PROPOSED CERTAIN TEMPERATURE ADJUSTMENTS TO PERMIT CERTIFICATION. DR. ECKERSKORN AGREED TO RESEARCH THE STEINMETZ PROPOSAL AND IN THE MEANTIME, TO SEEK LAENDER CONCURRENCE TO CONTINUE IMPORTS WITHOUT CERTIFICATION THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1973. ACTION REQUIRED: THAT THE MILITARY SUPPLY THE COMPLETE LISTING OF PRODUCTS INVOLVED AND TECHNICAL DATA REGARDING SAME TO DR. ECKERSKORN AS PROVIDED IN PARA 6 BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. THE MEETING WAS HELD TO DISCUSS A POTENTIAL JULY 1 CUTOFF OF MILITARY IMPORTATIONS OF PERISHABLE PROCESSED MEAT PRODUCTS DUE TO UNCLASSIFIED

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INABILITY TO CERTIFY PRODUCTS AS COMPLYING WITH GERMAN ANIMAL HEALTH RESTRICTIONS. U. S. PARTICIPANTS WERE DR. STEINMETZ, USDA- APHIS, DR. REICHARD, USDA- VET. SERVICES ROME, COL. HAYS AND MAJOR BRUESS, USAREUR, AND CAPT. HAMELIN AND AGATTACHE PARKS, FROM EMBASSY.

3. STEINMETZ POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO RELATE MEAT CONTENT IN PROCESSED PRODUCTS TO A SOURCE ANIMAL AS A BASIC FOR PROVIDING GERMANY WITH ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATION. THE ALTERNATIVE -- CERTIFICATION OF HEAT TREATMENT OF PRODUCT TO 100 GRADE C (212 GRAD F) WOULD RESULT IN PRODUCT BEING OVERCOOKED AND NOT POSSESSING EXPECTED CHARACTERISTICS.

4. DR. STEINMETZ PROPOSED DR. ECKERSKORN GIVE CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPTING CERTIFICATION OF LOWER TEMPERATURES MORE IN LINE WITH COMMERCIAL PRACTICE FOR THESE TYPES OF PRODUCTS SINCE MANY OF THE ARTICLES RECEIVE HEAT TREATMENT TO APPROXIMATELY 150-160 GRAD F.

5. DR. ECKERSKORN AGREED TO CONSIDER STEINMETZ PROPOSAL AND HE WILL PROPOSE TO GERMAN STATE OFFICIALS A FURTHER EXTENSION OF THE PRESENT

JULY 1 CERTIFICATION DEADLINE TO DECEMBER 31.

6. IN THE INTERIM, USAREUR OFFICIALS WILL FURNISH, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT NOT LATER THAN 20 AUGUST, A COMPLETE LISTING OF TYPES OF PRODUCTS INVOLVED AND THEIR PROCESSING SCHEDULES INCLUDING INTERNAL

TEMPERATURE ATTAINED. DR. ECKERSKORN WILL THEN SEEK EXPERT ADVICE ON TEMPERATURE ACCEPTABILITY VIS- A- VIS GERMAN CONCERN FOR ANIMAL DISEASES SUCH AS HOG CHOLERA, BLUE TONGUE ETC. HE WILL THEN TAKE UP THE MATTER IN THE NEXT MEETING OF THE VETERINARY COMMITTEE OF GERMAN

STATES TO BE HELD OCTOBER 9-11, 1973, AT WHICH TIME HE HOPES TO ARRIVE AT A FINAL SOLUTION. HILLENBRAND

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